

The John Doe Times
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The John Doe Times is an on-line, electronic newsletter devoted to the Oklahoma City bombing conspiracy and coverup. It is published episodically by the First Alabama Cavalry Regiment, Constitutional Militia, and friends.

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While the chief cook is away the bottle washers pull a double....

Our Editor In Chief is taking a well deserved break from the front line and is currently celebrating the Howe victory. As circulation manager, I was volunteered for the opening. Please forgive me if I am not as witty or insightful as Mr. V. (I get this way in front of large crowds).

Well on with the show.

McCurtian Daily Gazette

Idabel, Oklahoma

Thursday, July 31, 1997

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Prosecution Ends, Carol Howe's Attorney Begins Defense

By J.D. Cash

Tulsa -- The government ended its case against former debutante-turned-BATF-informant Carol Howe on Wednesday with testimony from FBI agents that the house she shared with a Tulsa white supremacist was filled with racist-oriented literature and components that could be used to make a bomb.

Howe, 26, has been charged in a three-count indictment of conspiracy to make a bomb threat and possession of an unregistered destructive device.

Last week, the defendant's former boyfriend - James Viefhaus - was found guilty on all three counts.

And now prosecutors are reportedly working feverishly to convince the 28-year-old Viefhaus to make a plea deal and testify against Howe during the governments rebuttal stage of the trial - what some observers see as an indication of the weakness of the government's case.

Howe's attorney was to begin putting on his defense today, and he is expected to attack the government vigorously - contending Carol Howe was indicted by the government as revenge for her public statements that she warned the government prior to the Oklahoma City bombing that persons at Elohim City had targeted federal buildings.

Those FBI agents who testified Wednesday said when they raided the house the couple shared in Tulsa, they found items stored in a box and duffle bag which could be combined to make a pipe bomb.

A former lab technician with the FBI told the jury that a section of threaded pipe with attached end caps could have been altered and filled with gunpowder, creating a weapon.

Cannon fuse and hexamine tablets were also discovered at the home, along with hair bleach and a home-canning solution.

All these items, Special FBI Agent Robert J. Heckman said, could be used in the bomb-making process.

But under cross-examination, the agent told Howe attorney Clark Brewster that it was irrelevant that the pipe seized in the raid showed no evidence of having ever contained gunpowder or having been drilled for a fuse.

Heckman said these facts had no bearing on his opinion that they were illegal items.

Brewster then reminded the FBI agent that he had earlier testified in another trial - telling a completely different story.

In a similar bombing conspiracy case, Heckman had said a piece of empty pipe with end caps attached was not considered a destructive device - until it had been drilled out for a fuse.

Heckman conceded that he had testified to that in an earlier case.

He was also forced to admit by Brewster that it was not illegal for a mere piece of empty pipe to be in the same room as a can of gunpowder.

Brewster then attacked Heckman's record at the scandal-ridden FBI crime lab in Washington, D.C., where he was recently criticized in an official investigation.

He acknowledged he had been reassigned to duties outside the lab.

And, Hickman conceded he had also been singled out by senior lab scientist and whistleblower Frederic Whitehurst for misleading juries, changing other experts' testimony and testifying outside his expertise.

Brewster will begin putting on his defense today.

End of Story.

McCurrian Daily Gazette

Idabel, Oklahoma

Friday, August 1, 1997

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Howe Expected to Testify in Her Own Defense Today

By J.D. Cash

Tulsa -- As promised, the defense in the conspiracy trial of Carol E. Howe began with an attack on the motivation of the U.S. government when they indicted the former Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms informant.

During opening statements, defense attorney Clark Brewster told the jury Howe was working for the BATF when her house was raided and that she had previously given important information about the Oklahoma City bombing - that was subsequently ignored.

Saying Howe would take the stand in her own defense, Brewster said: "My client will tell you what happened."

Brewster's defense includes the allegation that Howe's warning of the plot to bomb the Murrah building became an embarrassment that prompted the government to indict Howe to destroy her credibility.

Howe is charged in a three count indictment for conspiring to make a bomb threat and possessing an unregistered destructive device - the same charges on which her boyfriend, James Dodson Viefhaus Jr. was found guilty last week.

But the defense maintains the 26-year-old former debutante was working undercover for the BATF when she collected the items the government now claims she could have used to build a pipe bomb.

Moreover, the defense says Howe lived with, and associated with, subversives in the neo-Nazi movement to gather information for the government.

It is that lifestyle, basically, that prosecutors have been using in an attempt to prove Howe was working to overthrow the government.

And while Howe's defense attorney asserts she was still working undercover at the time of her arrest, the government has been using one of its own, BATF Special Agent Angela Finley Graham, to try to tapdance around that hole in its case.

Called to the stand first, Graham said she was the person who recruited and signed Howe up in the summer of 1994 to investigate White Aryan Resistance (WAR) leader Dennis Mahon and others in the neo-Nazi movement for explosives and weapons violations.

Graham said Howe never gave her a "specific warning" about the impending attack on the Oklahoma City bombing - a key element in the trial because of billions of dollars in claims filed by victims of the bombing who claim the government had "prior knowledge" of the bombing.

But Graham did say that Howe told her, as soon as she began her investigation, that Graham should read a copy of "The Turner Diaries" - a copy of which was provided to Howe by Tulsan Dennis Mahon.

That fictional account bears an uncanny resemblance to the Oklahoma City bombing. It details how a group of underground terrorists bent on the overthrow of the U.S. government bomb FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C. - using a truck bomb filled with a fertilizer-and-fuel oil mix.

During the McVeigh trial, the prosecution repeatedly told the jury the "Turner Diaries" was the blueprint McViegh used to put together his plan for the attack.

Graham had said earlier that she was largely unfamiliar with what she refers to as the "militia movement" when she began her investigation into Mahon and WAR.

And Thursday, alluding to Howe's progress while working indercover, Graham claimed the young informant never provided anything of importance to the agency.

But Brewster, Howe's attorney, figuratively hung Graham with her own words, noting for the jury's attention a report from Graham dated April 22, 1996, in which she wrote: THIS INFORMANT IS INVOLVED WITH THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOMB CASE WHICH IS PENDING PROSECUTION IN DENVER AND WAS THE KEY IN IDENTIFYING INDIVIDUALS AT ELOHIM CITY, WHICH IS TIED TO THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING CASE.

Graham also admitted Howe told her that the paramilitary training advisor at Elohim city, German national Andreas Strassmier, had indicated a desire to destroy the U.S. government through bombings, assassinations and mass shootings.

Graham also conceded the BATF's own reports show Howe told her in January 1995 that the spiritual leader of Elohim City - the Rev. Robert Millar - was advising his followers that they had to "take action" by the anniversayt of the Branch Davidian incineration - on April 19, 1995 when the Oklahoma City bombing took place - or they would all end up like David Koresh and his followers.

Additionally, Howe's forewarning included information provided Graham that quoted Tulsan Dennis Mahon as saying the group planned to bomb federal buildings in Oklahoma City or Tulsa.

Howe's reports also show Mahon told her he had successfully built and detonated a 500-pound fertilizer-and-fuel oil bomb some five years prior to the Oklhoma City bombing.

Alluding to a trip back to Elohim City after the Oklahoma City bombing, Graham said Howe returned with information that included comments from Rev. Millar's daughter saying, "There's a big secret out there."

Graham insisted while on the stand that Howe's work for the agency ended in the summer of 1995 - despite the agency's official report showing she was an active informant when the Howe-Viefhaus residence was raided on Dec. 13, 1996.

Graham's excuse for that discrepancy in her story is that if Howe's name had been removed from the BATF's list of active informants, critical information about the bombing might have to be destroyed.

Graham's testimony also weakened the government's contention that the evidence gathered against Howe had been done on her own, not as an undercover agent. Graham testified one of the cans of gunpowder listed in the conspiracy indictment was actually gathered from Mohan at the agent's direction - another key part of Howe's defense.

The defense has repeatedly said Howe's reports show each of those potential bomb-making components came from the target of the BATF's investigation of Mahon.

Today, the defense is expected to finish up with testimony from Carol Howe and a former high-ranking official of the BATF.

Robert Sanders, the former BATF official, is expected to testify as an expert for the defense and to say he has reviewed Howe's extensive reports and finds considerable fault with the agency's handling of the informant's information.

End of Story.